to the effect that Government have had three rounds of negotiations with the Punjab extremists since April 2, 1987 through Muni Sri Sushil Kumar, Sardar Tirlochan Singh Riyasti and Sardar Jasbir Singh Rode; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government has seen the news-item referred.

(b) As has been made clear from time to time the Government is ready for talks with the concerned parties to resolve the Punjab tangle, provided they express their full commitment to uphold the Constitution and maintain the unity and integrity of the country and also make it clear that they are against violence Acharya Sushil Kumar had been active in Punjab for some-time, seeking a non-violent solution within the frame-work of the Constitution to the problems there. No details are available about the efforts, if any, made by the other parties, mentioned in the news report.

Non-trading of shares companies in stock Exchanges

3035. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that shares of some companies which have come up with public issues during the last few years are not being traded in any of the Stock Exchanges;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government contemplate against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Information for the last three years will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Trading in the shares of companies in the Stock Exchanges depends upon the demand for and supply of the shares concerned and, therefore, the question of taking steps against companies do not arise.

Amendment of section 139 of Income-Tax Act

3036. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend section 139 of the Income-Tax Act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The necessary amendment is proposed to be included in the Amendment Bill, which is likely to be introduced in the Parliament shortly.

Setting up of a Board for capital investment

3037. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Board has been set up for foreign capital investment; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Foreign Investment Board already exists to clear cases of foreign capital investment.

(b) This is an Inter-minsterial Committee Chaired by the Finance Secre-

tary and serviced by the Secretariat for industrial Approvals.

Constitution of a Committee to deal with illicit drug trade cases

3038. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee to deal with the cases relating to illicit drug trade; and

(b) if so, what is the composition of the Committee and how many cases have been decided so far by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under Section 68D of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, as amended by Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, the Government have authorised the Collector of Central Excise, Allahabad, Collectors of Customs, Delhi and Madras and the Collectors of Customs (Preventive), Bombay and Calcutta to perform the functions of Competent Authority, for purposes of forfeiture of property derived from or used in illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. A notification to this effect has been issued on 29th May, 1989, No case, as yet, has been reported where the Competent Authorities have taken decisions on forfeiture of property derived from or used in illicit trafic in drugs|substances.

Filling up of vacant posts of Junior Proof Readers in the Central Water Commission

3039. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some vacancies of Junior Proof Readers in the reserved categories of Physically-handicapped and Scheduled Castes|Scheduled Tribes have been lying vacant in the Central Water Commission in its Head Office since long;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the latest Government policy, all such reserved vacancies should be filled up within the stipulated time; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) There are two vacancies of Junior Proof Readers available from 27-8-1982 and 21-7-88, reserved for Scheduled Tribe and Orthopaedically Handicapped respectively.

(b) and (c) In spite of repeated attempts no candidate belonging to these categories could be found suitable for selection.

Export of Peacock Tail Feathers

3040. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from trade bodies and elected representatives regarding the policy of export of Peacock Tail Feathers (P.T.F.) and whether the same is being reconsidered in the light of non-performance of last year's ceiling; if so, what is the final outcome;

(b) what is the number and value of 'Peacock Tail Feathers' exported from India during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 and what category fetched the highest units value realisation;

(c) what was the unit value realisation per hundred pieces during each of these years and the average export price realised during these three years; and

(d) whether it is a fact that tender system has failed in view of cornering of licences by a few parties and non-performance to the extent of 50 per cent and whether copies of unutilised export licences have been forwarded to the Ministry